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NEWS IN BRIEF.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

The Illinois Republican State Convention met at Springfield on the 19th. Gen. Green B. Raum was selected as temporary Chairman. The contesting delegations from Cook County were both excluded from the preliminary organization. Upon motion of Senator Logan, it was resolved "that all contesting delegations to this Convention shall pledge themselves to accept and abide the decision of this Convention in relation to such contest, as a condition precedent to having their claims to seats in the Convention considered."

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

The failure was announced on the 21st of the Reading Coal and Iron Company, heretofore considered one of the strongest companies in Pennsylvania, and intimately connected with the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company. The failure caused a panic in the stock market, and the Reading Railroad Company was forced to suspend its operations.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

Hon. Wm. McKee Fox, a prominent citizen and politician of Pulaski County, Ky., was drowned on the night of the 19th by accidentally falling from a cliff in which he was engaged in the river.

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS.

In the Senate, on the 24th, the President pro tempore laid before the Senate a communication from the President of the Smithsonian Institution, recommending an appropriation of \$80,000 for the completion of the Smithsonian Institution.

AN EXECUTIVE MESSAGE ON THE FORTUNE Bay Outrage.

WASHINGTON, May 17. The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President, transmitted in accordance with a resolution of the House of Representatives, copies of the correspondence with the Government of Great Britain in relation to the alleged outrage on American citizens at Fortune Bay, Newfoundland, together with the report from the Secretary of State on the subject. In the message the President says:

RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL.

The Congregational Church at Topeka, Kas., has adopted plans for a new church, to cost \$18,000, to be built without debt.

POLITICAL PARAGRAPHS.

Tilden's single barrel captured the last Democratic National Convention, and he says he will use a double barrel, or even a six shooter, before he will give up the nomination this year.

CONGRESSIONAL.

MAY 19.—SENATE.—Mr. Coke, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, reports a bill to provide for the allotment of lands to Indians on various reservations and to extend protection of the laws of the States and Territories to the Indians, and for other purposes. Placed on the calendar.

WIT AND WISDOM.

—Detroit has "grum socials." Boston Post. You needn't go unless you choose. Philadelphia Bulletin.

REPORT OF THE MINORITY ON NEW ENGLAND BUILDING.

Senator Blair, in behalf of the minority of the Senate Committee on the subject of the proposed new building for the State of Massachusetts, reported to the Senate on the 24th of May.

THE DEMOCRATIC SCHEME FOR COUNTING THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

It is a striking illustration of the desperate feeling prevailing in the Democratic party that a scheme so bold as the caucus plan for counting the Electoral votes can be favorably reported.

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